



**Federal Communications Commission
Office of Native Affairs and Policy**

**FCC Tribal Broadband, Telecom, and Broadcast
Training and Consultation Workshop**

Black Oak Casino, Tuolumne CA

January 31 - February 2, 2017

AGENDA

Tuesday, January 31 (*Cedar Room*)

- 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm** **Introduction to Broadband, Telecom, and Broadcast – Orientation & Training Session for Tribal Representatives**
This introduction and orientation session provides an overview of communications technologies, terminology, and key concepts. The session is intended primarily for Tribal representatives and includes regional networking among participants. This informal discussion is ideally suited for Tribal officials, Tribal government program and project managers, and Tribal representatives who are new to the subjects of telecommunications, broadband, and broadcast media. Attendees will review key concepts and issue areas to prepare for the rest of the event and for work with the FCC, with communications carriers, and within their Tribal Nations.

Wednesday, February 1 (*Redbud/Dogwood Room*)

- 8:30 am – 9:00 am** **Doors Open – Registration and Networking**
- 9:00 am – 9:15 am** **Invocation – Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians Tribal Leader**
- 9:15 am – 9:20 am** **Opening Remarks**
D’wana Terry, Acting Deputy Bureau Chief, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau
- 9:20 am – 9:45 am** **Overview of Agenda and Logistics**
Introduction to the Federal Communications Commission
This session introduces the FCC and discusses its relevance to Tribal Nations. It provides background on how the Commission operates, including how the FCC handles licensing, rulemaking, subsidies and public comment in creating communications programs and policy. This session will also introduce the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) and discuss how the FCC works with USDA and USAC to develop and implement outreach and training for Tribal Nations. This session introduces Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Staff.
- 9:45 am – 10:00 am** **Wireless Telecommunications Bureau – National Historic Preservation Act overview**
The Wireless Telecommunications Bureau will provide a brief overview of the environmental review process for new communications towers and antennas, with a

focus on Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. As part of its Section 106 review, the FCC, through its Tower Construction Notification System (TCNS), notifies Tribal Nations of proposed constructions within their self-identified geographic areas of interest and gives them an opportunity to identify resources of cultural and religious significance that may be affected. This presentation will briefly explain how the TCNS process works and how Tribal Nations can effectively participate.

9:30 am – 4:30 pm



Breakout Session with USAC - Schools and Libraries Program (Manzanita Room)

The E-rate Program provides discounts to help schools and libraries obtain affordable rates for high-speed Internet access and telecommunications. Schools and Libraries on Tribal lands are invited to a day of “E-rate 101” training hosted by the E-rate Tribal Liaison, which will include guidance on understanding the importance of the program, how to navigate the application process, and information on where Tribal applicants can find help and resources.

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Starting Up and Running a Tribal Communications Company: The Perspectives of Tribal Telecom and Project Managers on How to Build Capacity and Deploy Services

This session will provide an opportunity to hear perspectives and experiences on telecom and broadband deployment from Tribal communications general managers and directors from across the region. This will include an overview of Tribal needs in communications services and detailed discussions of specific methods used to build business models and to develop critical telecom and broadband communications infrastructures. Tribal managers will also provide insights on how to increase internal capacities and knowledge within Tribal Nations. Led by Tribal communications service providers, this session will provide an opportunity to learn from the experience of others and develop knowledge and resource networks for coordination.

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Lunch Break – lunch on your own

1:30 pm – 2:00 pm

Data at the FCC

This session provides an overview of the ways in which FCC uses data: to develop performance goals and measures, to analyze the availability of broadband service, to determine eligibility for funding, to create coverage maps. The session provides an introductory look into the FCC’s data collection and publication and discusses what role Tribal Nations may have in providing the Commission with robust, accurate data.

2:00 pm – 2:30 pm



Introduction to the USDA and Overview of Rural Utilities Service Programs

This session will explain the USDA’s role in providing leadership on food, agriculture, natural resources, rural development, nutrition, and related issues. Specifics will be provided in regards to the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), which administers programs that provide much-needed infrastructure or infrastructure improvements to rural communities. These include water and waste treatment, electric power and telecommunications services.

2:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program



The USDA's Distance Learning and Telemedicine program helps rural communities use the unique capabilities of telecommunications to connect to each other and to the world, overcoming the effects of remoteness and low population density. For example, this program can link teachers and medical service providers in one area to students and patients in another.

3:00 pm – 3:15 pm

Break

3:15 pm – 4:30 pm

Attendees Networking Session

This session allows attendees an opportunity to network with other attendees. FCC staff will be available during this time for one-on-one consultation with attendees. Additionally, FCC staff will be available to assist attendees with individual searches on FCC web-based systems.

Thursday, February 2 (*Redbud/Dogwood Room*)

8:30 am

Doors Open

9:00 am – 11:00 am

Tribal Radio is Backbone Technology and the Voice of the Community: How to Obtain a Radio Broadcast License with the FCC's Tribal Priority, and How to Run a Tribal Radio Station

Distinct new regulations for Tribal Nations now make it easier to obtain an FM radio broadcast license for services over Tribal lands. Learn how to get a radio station licensed and running from the perspectives of Tribal radio station management. Learn the licensing mechanisms at the FCC available to Tribal Nations. Hear practical legal and engineering advice. In addition to expert panelists, this session will present video information from the Native station perspective on starting up a broadcast facility, as well as materials on the licensing procedures at the FCC. Staff will discuss lessons learned at the National Tribal Radio Summit held in July 2016.

9:30 am – 3:00 pm

FCC Native Learning Lab Open – Please see an ONAP Staff Member to schedule Learning Lab Consultation Time (*Manzanita Room*)

11:00 am – 11:15 am

Break

11:15 am – 12:00 pm

Tribal Engagement Obligation

Eligible Telecommunications Carriers are now required to engage with Tribal governments on a variety of priorities related to broadband deployment. The rules require that ETCs demonstrate on an annual basis that they have meaningfully engaged Tribal governments in their supported areas. This session will review the rules and seek audience feedback regarding the experiences that Tribal governments have had in engaging with carriers under these rules.

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Lunch Break – lunch on your own

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

USF Overview

This session provides an overview of the FCC's Universal Service Fund and its four subsidy programs: (1) the High Cost program, including the Connect America Fund; (2) the Schools and Libraries program, also known as E-rate; (3) the Low-Income program, also

known as Lifeline and Link Up; and (4) the Rural Health Care program. This session also includes an overview of how these programs operate, their application processes, and what it means to be an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC).

2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Consultation and Listening Session: THIS SESSION IS OPEN TO TRIBAL MEMBERS AND APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES OF TRIBAL NATIONS ONLY

This session provides Tribal members and appointed representatives of Tribal Nations an opportunity to discuss, in an open forum, with FCC staff, any matters of interest to Workshop attendees in a collaborative and constructive environment.

4:00 pm

Workshop Concludes